

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE
NEW JERSEY URBAN LEAGUE for May, 1919.

The one outstanding feature of the League's work, during this month has been the ready response of people of both races, former friends of the League, to answer appeals both for conferences and for funds. This, I am sure, is a most healthy sign. It proves conclusively, how necessary the Organization is to the community and indicates clearly what it can and will become, when we have the heart interest of the people. This response has manifested itself in many ways. During the month we have raised from letters alone, with but three exceptions, about \$1600. Of this amount \$800 is actually in hand, and a conditional \$1050 promised. (2) On the other hand, people have been tireless in attending meetings, in order to shape out our program for further work.

While the secretary purposely spent most of the time in readjusting matters and attempting to secure funds, some other actual and effective work was done.

(1) On Industry.

There have been about forty calls in the office during the month for workers. These include, day's workers, general house workers, factory workers, and waitresses. Unfortunately, few of these places were filled from here, as we had no worker to do it. On the other hand, we have had quite a few applicants, two of whom are especially noteworthy, they being girls who are stenographers and typists. I feel that this situation will be relieved now, by the opening of our own office, in the co-operative plan with the Government, under the charge of an Industrial Secretary, employed by the League.

(2) Housing.

About 12 families have applied to the League for houses, one of whom was a New York family which is desirous of moving here. Nothing could be given them. In this connection, it is especially important that some investigator get information of the rent profiteering, that is being practiced on Negroes throughout the city, so as to bring them to the attention of the Rent Profiteering Committee, at which there might be an adjustment.

(3) Recreation.

A very earnest attempt has been made to secure the vacant lot across the street. This might be used very effectively for a children's playground, and perhaps a tennis court for adults, if put into proper shape. The figure of rental, however, by the owner has been too costly to make the securing of it possible.

(4) Cases.

Some very flagrant cases have come to our attention. Possibly the worse was the ejection, by an unscrupulous landlord, of a woman and 5 children, the youngest of whom was but six weeks from her home, while her husband was very ill in the hospital.

Immediate action by co-operation with other agencies saved her. The reorganization of our Friendly Visitors Committee, will help tremendously in situations of this nature. Other cases were getting working papers for a boy, arranging to send a tubercular patient South, and arranging to send a convalescent girl to a convalescent home in New York State.

(5) Health

The League has secured the appointment of a Colored nurse, Mrs. Florence Freeman, in the Child Hygiene Department of the Department of Health.

(6) Co-operation

We have co-operated with the Department of Labor, Board of Education, Board of Health, Children's Aid, Bureau of Assoc. Charities, and National Medical Association. (speak)

(7) Conferences and Meetings

The Red Cross have held four meetings, Girl Scouts four, Men's Industrial Association four, and Young Men's Club two, Phyllis Wheatley Literary one.

Conferences have been held with an Executive Committee of the Y.W.C.A. and Miss Eva D. Bowles, Colored worker of the International Y.W.C.A. relative to creating sentiment for a Y.W.C.A. worker in Newark. A conference was held also with Mr. B. S. Whitehead relative to securing a community worker for Colored boys in Newark. While nothing definite developed from either of these, it is believed that something will, later.

The Board of Managers recently elected a new Executive Committee which is as follows:

✓ Dr. E. H. Vail, President.	Mrs. Ella Francisco
✓ Dr. W. G. Alexander, 1st V. Pres.	Mrs. Felix Fuld
Mrs. M. B. Gregory, 2nd V. Pres.	Mayor C. F. Gilien
Rev. H. K. Spearman, 3rd V. Pres.	Mr. R. C. Jenkinson
Mr. A. W. McDougall, Treas.	Mrs. Stephen Little
✓ Mr. Carl Baumgart	Rev. D. W. Lusk
Mr. C. M. Brown	Miss Eva Mulford
Mrs. Geo. A. Douglas	✓ Mrs. V. B. Powell
Mr. J. P. Dusenberry	Rev. E. E. Ricks
✓ Rev. L. B. Ellerson	Mr. R. W. Stewart
Rev. A. Elmendorf	Dr. W. H. Washington
<i>Mr. C. F. Harris</i>	✓ Mrs. W. W. Wolfe

The second floor is now being prepared for dormitories for girls. While it is probable that some of the rooms will be furnished, at least partially, by generous individuals and the Phyllis Wheatley Home Assoc. it is certain that some of the expense will have to come from our general fund. In addition to this there is immediate need for a case worker to handle problems of the family.

The League will be represented at the National social worker's Conference which is meeting this week in Atlantic City. The Secretary will speak before the New Jersey Conference, on the opportunities presented to our Organization this year.

The committee appointed to see Mr. Spitts, did so. In the discussion it was made clear, that there was no intention of Mr. Ashby's moving his office up here. He felt that this plan would be good both for the League and the Department of Labor, and it is understood that a withdrawal is possible at anytime, either party, for sufficient reasons want to do so.

Apian is now in preparation to raise in the two weeks of June 15-30, \$2000. It is imperative that we have this money for the necessary carrying on of our work for the next 7 months. We hope to get most of it by small subscriptions and entertainments.

A campaign, nominated the Victory Drive, will be carried out.

Miss Marnie H. Burroughs will open the Drive for us, on Sunday afternoon June 15, at 3 PM, at the 13th Ave. Presbyterian Church.

This sum can be realized with the hearty co-operation of the Board and their friends.

Respectfully,

Executive Secretary.